

## Senate Resolution 16 - Introduced

### SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 16

BY CHAPMAN

1 A Resolution recognizing and supporting the federal  
2 government's efforts to combat illegal robocalling  
3 and spoofing.

4 WHEREAS, cellular phones have become a vital part  
5 of everyday life, and Iowans rely on them for ease of  
6 communication and accessing information; and

7 WHEREAS, the abuse of this technology by scam  
8 artists using malicious robocalling tactics causes  
9 significant disruptions and leads to substantial  
10 financial losses; and

11 WHEREAS, scam robocallers are becoming increasingly  
12 sophisticated, using spoofing technology to fool the  
13 call recipient into believing that a call is coming  
14 from a friend, neighbor, local business, or government  
15 organization; and

16 WHEREAS, in 2018 the Federal Trade Commission  
17 (FTC) received nearly 3.8 million complaints about  
18 robocalls, and the Federal Communications Commission  
19 (FCC) received more than 52,000 complaints about  
20 spoofing; and

21 WHEREAS, a recent study found that 26.3 billion  
22 robocalls were made to United States telephone numbers  
23 in 2018, up 46 percent from 18 billion robocalls in  
24 2017; and

25 WHEREAS, another recent study found that Americans  
26 are defrauded \$9.5 billion each year from illegal  
27 robocalls; and

28 WHEREAS, listing a telephone number on the

1 national Do Not Call Registry does little to prevent  
2 or discourage the growing onslaught of illegal  
3 robocalls; and

4 WHEREAS, new phone verification systems, including  
5 the Secure Telephone Identity Revisited (STIR) and  
6 Signature-based Handling of Asserted information  
7 using TOKENS (SHAKEN) protocols, show great promise as  
8 technological solutions to stop illegal robocalling and  
9 spoofing; and

10 WHEREAS, FCC Chairman Ajit Pai recently stated  
11 that combatting illegal robocalling and spoofing is  
12 his top consumer protection priority and called on  
13 telecommunication carriers to adopt the STIR and SHAKEN  
14 protocols; and

15 WHEREAS, the FTC and FCC are taking steps to protect  
16 consumers from illegal robocalling and spoofing,  
17 including by pursuing law enforcement actions,  
18 implementing policy initiatives, and proposing  
19 technological solutions; NOW THEREFORE,

20 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the Senate  
21 extends its appreciation and offers its support to the  
22 federal government in its efforts to stop the abuse  
23 of national telecommunication networks, to combat the  
24 scourge of illegal robocalling and spoofing, and to  
25 protect Iowans from fraud; and

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the  
27 Senate shall forward a copy of this resolution to the  
28 Chairman of the FCC, the Chairman of the FTC, and to  
29 the members of the Iowa congressional delegation.